

NEWS RELEASE

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February 19, 2004 Press Release 2004-26

SBA RESUMES LENDING ACTIVITY

BOSTON - The U.S. Small Business Administration resumed lending under its **7(a)** Loan Guaranty Program on January 14, 2004. Loans of up to \$750,000 for nearly every business purpose are available through SBA participating lenders. The 7(a) program was suspended for one week in January because of volume constraints. The \$750,000 maximum will remain in effect until further notice. Go to http://www.sba.gov/ma/financing.html for a list of participating lenders in Massachusetts.

SBA's **Certified Development Company/504 Loan Program** remained in effect during the temporary suspension of 7(a) activity and is available to provide growing businesses with long-term, fixed-rate financing for major fixed assets, such as land and buildings. Certified Development Companies work with the SBA and private-sector lenders to provide financing of up to \$1.3 million. Go to: http://www.sba.gov/ma/macdc.html for the list of authorized Certified Development Companies in Massachusetts.

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For more information about all of the SBA's programs for small businesses, visit the SBA's extensive Web site at www.sba.gov or call locally at 617-565-5590.